Narberth Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1957

N A R B E R T H R U R A L D I S T R I C T

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1957.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council,

I have the pleasure to present the Annual Report for the year 1957.

The estimated resident population shows an increase, as also does the birth and infant mortality rate.

The general death rate shows a decrease, the greatest number of deaths being due to heart disease, but not to coronary disease as so frequently happens in the urban areas.

The majority of cases of infectious diseases were due to whooping cough. One case (a visitor) was notified as non-paralytic polio-myelitis. The patient made a good recovery but I am personally a little doubtful about the diagnosis.

The general housing problem appears to be resolving. The question of suitable housing for the elderly is a problem that needs to be carefully considered, but no doubt in certain areas one-bedroomed bungalows would be an advantage.

Water and sewerage problems have arisen but these problems are being dealt with as speedily as it is possible.

The section prepared by the Public Health Inspector shows how large a part these officers play in the maintenance of the conditions suitable for healthy living.

In conclusion I would like to thank the members of the Public Health Committee and Council and the staff for their continued courtesy and co-operation during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

Phyll. M. Bowen

PHYLLIS M. BOWEN. M.R.C.S.,

L.R.C.P.,D.P.H.,D.C.H.

District Medical Officer.

V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S

Resident Population (Registrar General's Estimate) .....1957.....

.....9,930.....

	Narberth R.D.1957	Narberth R.D.1956	County of Pembroke	England & Wales
Birth Rate (per 1,000 pop.)	16.2	13.4	17.05	16.1
Death Rate (per 1,000 pop.)	12.6	13.6	11.32	11.5
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	43.5	30.3	34.17	23.0

Live Births	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	155	76	79
Illegitimate	6	4	2
Total Births	161	80	81

Still Births			
Legitimate	2	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	2	1	1

The infant mortality rate again shows an increase. There were 7 deaths of infants under one year of age. One death was due to intra-cerebral haemorrhage and prematurity at two days, 1 to prematurity at fourteen hours, 1 to atelectasis and prematurity at three days, 1 to hydrops foetalis at six hours, 1 to lymphoblastic leukaemia at ten months, 1 to asphyxia neonatorum livida at one day, and 1 to congenital malformation of the heart at one day.

Causes of death	Male	Female
TOTAL (All causes)	61	64
Malignant neoplasm of stomach	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	4
Leukaemia	-	1
Diabetes	2	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	10	13
Coronary disease, angina	12	3
Hypertension with heart disease	-	1
Other heart disease	10	16
Other circulatory disease	1	1
Pneumonia	2	1
Bronchitis	3	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1
Congenital malformations	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	15
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-
All other accidents	-	1
Suicide	1	-

The general death rate shows a decrease this year. Approximately 36.0% (45) of the total deaths were of persons over 70 years of age, and of these 29.6% (37) were of persons aged over 80 years. The highest number of deaths from any one cause was from heart disease, which caused 42 deaths.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Whooping Cough	18
Polio-myelitis(non-paralytic)	1

TUBERCULOSIS

There was one case of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year, but there were no deaths from tuberculosis. One old case of tuberculosis of the spine was re-admitted to hospital.

PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS.

B.C.G. Vaccination.

B.C.G. Vaccination of contacts and school leavers continues to be carried out in the district. Clinic sessions are held as required and the schools are also visited. During 1957, 3 contacts and 98 school leavers (i.e. thirteen year old pupils) were vaccinated.

The Chest Physician, Dr. Llewellyn Davies, also vaccinates contacts at the Chest Clinic.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

The Mobile Unit of the Mass Radiography Service visited Maenclochog during the year.

	Grand Total	Male	Female
Total No. of persons examined	151	74	77
No. found to be abnormal	3 or 1.99%	2	1
No. requiring further observation	2 or 1.33%	1	1
Other abnormalities of chest	1 or .66%	1	-

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT.1946.

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Vaccination — Records were received during the year of 122 primary vaccinations and 21 secondary.

Immunisation — Records were received this year of 134 immunisations and 3 re-inforcing injections.

Both vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria are carried out free of charge by the local practitioners who are paid by the County Council for records received by your Medical Officer.

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIO-MYELITIS

This work has continued in the clinics and in the schools and it has meant much additional work for the County Health Department.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT.1948.

Section 47:- Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No action was necessary under this section.

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REPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

WATER

The number of houses and other properties supplied from the mains at the end of 1957 were as follows:-

Amroth	176	Llawhaden	60	Mounton	3
Begelly	112	Llangolman	34	Narberth South	5
Bletherston	16	Llandissilio West	100	Narberth North	111
Clarbeston	18	Llanycefn	34	New Moat	104
Coedcanlas	5	Llysyfran	24	Newton	14
Crinow	26	Llanfallteg	15	Reynalton	26
Crunwere	42	Llandilo	11	Robeston Wathen	54
East Williamston	95	Loveston	13	St. Issells	754
Grondre	32	Ludchurch	33	Slebech	22
Jeffreyston	102	Maenclochog	69	Vorlan	5
Lampeter Velfrey	128	Martletwy	50	Yerbeston	8
Llanddewi Velfrey	81	Minwere	3		

HOUSING

The housing position at the end of 1957 was as follows:-

Coxhill - Remaining 6 houses of 10 houses under construction completed.
Broadmoor - 4 houses completed.
Amroth - 8 houses and 2 bungalows in course of construction.
Templeton - 2 bungalows commenced.

This now brings the total number of houses in each parish at the end of 1957 to:-

Amroth	26	Llangolman	4
Begelly	18	Llanycefn	4
Begelly Old Site	2	Llawhaden	6
Broadmoor	16	Lampeter Velfrey	2
Coxhill	28	Ludchurch	6
Cresselly	6	Maenclochog	8
Cross Hands	10	Martletwy	6
Crunwere	4	New Moat	8
East Williamston	2	Reynalton	4
Grondre	10	Robeston Wathen	8
Jeffreyston	4	Saundersfoot (North Close)	39
Kilgetty (Ryelands)	36	Saundersfoot (Nash Place)	10
Kilgetty (1915)	8	Saundersfoot (Windsor Terr.)	6
Kilgetty (St. Mary's Place)	12	Tavernspite	8
Llanddewi Velfrey	18	Templeton	15
Llandissilio	8	Velfrey Road	12

Total - 342 houses.

Casual vacancies occurred on the following sites during the past twelve months:-

Cross Hands	1 vacancy	New Moat	1 vacancy
Jeffreston	2 vacancies	Parsonage Green, Begelly	2 vacancie
Llangolman	2 "	North Close, Saundersfoot	1 vacancy
Llanddewi Velfrey	3 "	Reynalton	1 "
Llawhaden	1 vacancy	Summerhill, Amroth	1 "
Tavernspite	1 "		

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	283
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officer.	35
Estimated number of houses unfit for human habitation within the meaning of Section 9 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.	114

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING YEAR

Housing Act, 1936. Sections 9,10 and 16.

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	1
Number of dwelling houses rendered fit after service of formal notices (By Owners).	1

Public Health Acts

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	17
Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices (By Owners).	nil

Housing Act, 1936. Sections 11 & 13.

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made.	2
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted.	15

Housing Act, 1936. Section 12.

Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made.	nil

SANITARY INSPECTION

Number of complaints received	163
Number of defects or nuisances discovered	142

Summary of Inspections

Dwelling Houses:-

No. of inspections arising from housing applications	69
No. of inspections under Housing Act, 1936	27
No. of inspections in connection with Improvement Grants	nil
No. of inspections under Public Health Act	435
Drainage	77
Infectious disease enquiries and disinfections	7
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	69
Schools	31
Factories (including bakehouses)	43
Shops (including ice-cream premises)	58

Refuse Disposal	49
Water Supplies	33
Miscellaneous	68

No. of Notices served

Preliminary:	Housing		
	Other	84	
Statutory:	Housing		
	Other	2	

Summary Action

Summonses issued	nil
Convictions obtained	nil

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDERS

No. of Registered Retailers	8
No. of inspections	28

Dairymen

Licensed to use the designation Tuberculin Tested 8

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The following list shows the number slaughtered up to the end of the year:-

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep/Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	441	2565	4304	2156	1062	53
Number inspected	384	2534	4283	1613	950	48

All diseases except Tuberculosis

	Cattle ex.cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep/Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Whole carcases condemned	-	48	3	2	3	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	123	2214	15	113	168	16

Tuberculosis Only

Whole carcases condemned	nil	nil	nil	nil	1	nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	-	-	98	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	0.45%	-	-	-	9.2%	-

Meat and other Foods Condemned

The following amount of meat was found to be unfit for human consumption during the year:-

Cattle	2322	Whole Livers
	154	Part Livers
	795	Pairs Lungs
	7	Hindquarters
	48	Whole Carcases and Offal
Sheep	68	Whole Livers
	12	Whole Plucks
	1	Hindquarter
	2	Whole Carcases and Offal
Pigs	92	Heads and Tongues
	31	Livers
	34	Whole Plucks
	117	Pairs Lungs
	134	Trotters
	4	Whole Carcases
Calves	2	Livers
	2	Whole Plucks
	3	Whole Carcases and Offal

Other Foods

1 (15lb.) Tin Cooked Ham	2 Jars Lemon Curd
11 Tins Sago Pudding	15 Packets Sago
14 Jelly Creams	3 Packets Tapioca
8 Jars Bovril	3 Packets Macaroni
15 Packets Rice	6 lbs. Pearl Barley
24 Packets Cut & Dried Peel	16 Packets Glace Cherries
6 Packets Raising Powder	6 lbs. Tea
23 Packets Stuffing	19 Packets Cake Decorations
8 Bars Chocolate	1 Tin Butter Puffs
44 Packets Biscuits	8 Bars Cooking Salt
6 Packets Jelly	1 Packet Energen Rolls
71 Packets Cereal	2 lbs. Demarara Sugar
22 Packets Flour	2 Packets Sponge Cakes
67 lbs. Dried Fruit	4 lbs. Cream Biscuits
19 Large Tins Pork	16 Packets Blancmange
11 lbs. Cookeen	2½ lbs. Wafers
4 Tins Brawn	29 Packets Shredded Suet
11 Tins Minced Steak	10½ lbs. Margarine
2 Bottles Orange Squash	1 Tin Corned Beef
4 Dozen Eggs	13 Tins Baby Foods
4 Jars Horlicks	18 Packets Custard Powder
12 Bottles Ribena	12 lbs. Coconut
42 Packets Pepper	12 Tins Ffynnon Salts

REFUSE DISPOSAL

The schedule for the collection of refuse remains the same, that is, two vehicles full time for a period of five months during the summer and one vehicle full time and one vehicle part time during the winter months. Nearly all the area is now covered, and with the co-operation of those people who live an appreciable distance off the highway and who make the necessary arrangements to carry the dustbins to a suitable point for collection, it does enable the Council to dispose of refuse from the majority of properties in the district.

For some years past, the Council has disposed of the refuse on Kingsmoor Common and it has been appreciated that this is a most unsuitable position in view of it being (a) an open space and (b) within a distance of approximately 120 yards of the main

Tenby - Narberth highway - a highway which carries a quite heavy traffic of cars and buses during the summer.

An alternative site was fortunately made available at Pleasant Valley at the beginning of October. It was suitable being that it was perfectly sited for the disposal of refuse collected in the southern portion of the district and it was a matter of filling ground excavations, with ample covering material available for controlled tipping. During the summer, this site is licónsed as a caravan site and thus it will be necessary to secure another site prior to April 1958. I am sure that the Council have no desire to commence tipping at Kingsmoor Common again and every endeavour will be made to find an alternative site.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council still retain the services of one man as part time rodent operator. The sewers were treated once during the year and the take was very small. It was not possible to carry out the full treatment due to shortage of labour. Disposal work sites, refuse tips and common land were treated regularly and also some work was carried out on private houses. However, it was most noticeable how the number of complaints regarding rats and mice have lessened so considerably. Approximately three years ago when inspections were carried out on agricultural land it was not uncommon to see ample evidence of rats in banks and hedges. During this year such evidence is not so obvious and reports of heavy infestations are very few.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Prose-cutions
(i) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4,& 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	53	113	9	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	6	8	2	Nil
TOTAL	59	121	11	Nil

W.E. DAVIES

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

4th. December 1958.